Country's healthcare system on decline: minister

ISLAMABAD: Federal Minister for Health Mustafa Kamal on Monday said that the healthcare system in Pakistan was far from ideal.

"Globally, the focus of healthcare has changed — it is no longer about treating illness but about preventing people from getting sick in the first place," he said while addressing the participants of Pharmacovigilance Workshop.

He underscored the urgent need to shift Pakistan's health system from a treatment-based model to one centered on prevention, awareness, and lifestyle improvement.

Mr Kamal noted that countries around the world have adopted lifestyle medicine, a system that promoted wellness without overreliance on medicines.

"The world has committed itself to systems that protect people from becoming patients. Unfortunately, Pakistan's medical infrastructure remains in a state of decline," he remarked.

He emphasised that true healthcare begins outside hospital walls, starting with environmental and preventive measures.

"Due to the lack of a functional healthcare system, our hospitals are overburdened with patients. Seventy percent of diseases in Pakistan are caused by contaminated water. If clean drinking water were available, hospital loads would drop by at least 70 percent," the minister said.

He pointed out the critical need for a comprehensive sewage treatment system, stating, "From Gilgit-Baltistan to Karachi, our water sources are spreading diseases. Local-level sewage treatment systems are essential if we are to improve public health."

Discussing future trends in healthcare, he said, "Within the next ten years, the world will have overcome cancer. Yet, we risk remaining entangled in debates over whether vaccines are permissible or not." Mr. Kamal expressed deep concern over Pakistan's high burden of hepatitis, diabetes, and cardiovascular diseases, noting that the country ranked among the highest globally for these conditions.

He announced that the Ministry of Health was establishing a modern Healthcare Management System at the National Institute of Health to strengthen service delivery and monitoring mechanisms. — Staff Reporter

Rain expected today: Met Office

By Our Staff Reporter

RAWALPINDI: The Pakistan Meteorological Department has forecast rain-wind/thunderstorm (with snowfall over the mountains) in upper parts of the country on Tuesday (today).

It said temperatures are likely to drop significantly in the next few days.

A westerly wave is likely to approach upper parts of the country and may persist till November 5, it said.

Under the influence of this westerly wave, rain-windstorm/thunderstorm (with snowfall over mountains) are expected in Chitral, Dir, Swat, Kohistan, Shangla, Battagram, Buner, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Haripur, Malakand, Bajaur, Mohmand, Khyber, Swabi, Nowshera, Peshawar, Mardan, Charsadda, Kurram, Orakzai, Hangu, Kohat, Galliyat, Kashmir (Neelum valley, Muzaffarabad, Rawalakot, Poonch, Hattian, Bagh, Haveli, Sudhanoti, Kotli, Bhimber, Mirpur) and Gilgit-Baltistan (Diamir, Astore, Skardu, Gilgit, Hunza, Ghanche, Shigar) from November 4 to 5 (morning).

Isolated hailstorm is also expected during the period. Rain-windstorm/thunderstorm is also expected in Islamabad/Rawalpindi, Murree, Attock, Chakwal, Talagang, Jhelum, Sargodha, Khushab, Gujranwala, Sialkot, Narowal and Lahore.

Foggy and smoggy conditions are expected to subdue during the wet spell and redevelop afterwards.

Farmers are advised to manage their activities keeping in view the weather forecast. Travelers and tourists should schedule their trips particularly in hilly areas keeping in view the weather forecast.

A VIEW of a massive traffic jam on Murree Road in Rawalpindi after work on the remodeling of Kutchery Chowk started on Monday. — Online

Sherry proposes Pakistan's own 'Conference of Parties' to boost climate resilience

By Bakhtawar Mian

ISLAMABAD: Senator Sherry Rehman has proposed convening Pakistan's own 'Conference of Parties', comprising provinces, experts and people to intensify data-sharing, local innovations, public-private partnerships across the federation and build climate resilience.

"Every province has its own share of challenges, from drought-hit Balochistan to the deforested valleys of Chitral to flood-hit provinces of Sindh, KP and Punjab. People are still struggling with livelihood challenges in each.

"Every province has a different topography and different challenge, from mountain to delta, but every province has to act based on its access to resources, both in terms of capacity and finance," she said while speaking at a pre-COP30 conference. Pakistan Red Crescent Society's had organised the conference "From Policy to Practice".

She said, "This is a crucial convening. According to her, climate change is worsening, and the crisis will only gather higher velocity. Without urgent adaptation, the World Bank estimates that Pakistan could lose 18–20 per cent of its GDP by 2050, she said.

"At COP30, thirty years later, where do we stand today? What are we giving and what are we taking from nature?" she asked.

Touching on global finance, she questioned: "Where is the $300 billion from the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG)? What are developed countries contributing to the South? Countries should not have to compete internationally for climate funds - it is a fundamental right. Even early warning systems cost more than we can afford, and these are fundamental to survival now."

Developed countries should ideally be also asked to submit their internationally determined contributions to the countries who have a negligible carbon footprint. Debt swaps and financial guardrails for the vulnerable must be built because, simply put, our house is burning at 53C every summer."

Senator Rehman said Pakistan's nationally determined contributions (3.0) had been updated with ambitious goals, including a target to cut projected greenhouse gas emissions by half - 17 per cent through domestic efforts and 33 per cent conditional on international finance - requiring $565.7 billion by 2035.

"Between 2021 and 2025, Pakistan has already achieved a 37 per cent emissions reduction without external aid," she noted, but cautioned that the international climate finance conversation must translate into tangible relief for those on the frontlines. "The projected total cost of climate inaction in Pakistan is estimated at $250 billion by 2030 and $1.2 trillion by 2050," she warned.

She underlined the urgent need to involve the private sector and mobilise innovative financial solutions: "Businesses must be part of building holistic resilience.

"We need some kind of financial mobilization. We also need to take responsibility for what we can do in terms of delivering climate action at home, in terms of providing sanitation and clean water. Right now we have very high pollution in our air and water, which are not the doing of any global emitter."

Senator called air pollution a "serial killer," responsible for over 128,000 deaths annually. She noted that "the Indus is now the second most polluted river in the world," underscoring the interconnected crisis of air, water and land degradation.

Uzbekistan Airways doubles flights to Pakistan

By Jamal Shahid

ISLAMABAD: The Uzbekistan Embassy in Islamabad on Monday announced the expansion of its flight operations to Pakistan, enhancing connectivity between the two countries and reducing travel time from Islamabad to Tashkent to just two hours.

"Direct flights have cut travel time significantly, especially when layovers in Dubai have been eliminated," an official from the Uzbekistan Embassy told Dawn.

Uzbekistan Airways, the national carrier of the Republic of Uzbekistan, now operates a total of four weekly flights between Uzbekistan and Pakistan, doubling the frequency of its Tashkent–Islamabad service while continuing its regular Tashkent–Lahore flights.

According to Uzbekistan Airways, the decision to expand services was driven by strong passenger demand, as previous Islamabad flights often operated at full capacity and tickets sold out days in advance.

"Tashkent–Islamabad–Tashkent" flights operate twice weekly, every Tuesday and Saturday, while "Tashkent–Lahore–Tashkent" flights operate twice weekly, every Wednesday and Friday.

The embassy said that with this expansion, Uzbekistan Airways has strengthened its role as a key bridge between Central and South Asia, offering Pakistani travelers greater choice, convenience, and connectivity to destinations across the world.

Flights from Tashkent to Islamabad take around two hours, providing a fast and efficient link between the two capitals.

One-way fares start at approximately $200, while round-trip tickets are available from $400, making this route one of the most affordable and time-saving options for business, education, and leisure travelers alike.

The embassy added that the "Tashkent–Lahore" route is equally attractive, with one-way fares from about $200 and round-trip fares from $400. All flights are operated on modern, comfortable aircraft, ensuring passengers enjoy world-class onboard service, professional crews, and the highest safety standards.

Tashkent International Airport, the airline's primary hub, is strategically positioned at the crossroads of Europe and Asia, offering passengers efficient connections and a comfortable travel experience. Beyond direct travel between Pakistan and Uzbekistan, the airport serves as a strategic transit hub, connecting travelers to over 50 international destinations across Europe, North America, the Middle East, East Asia and Southeast Asia.

Passengers flying via Tashkent can enjoy smooth transit connections to major global cities including Istanbul, Frankfurt, Paris, London, New York, Moscow, Dubai, Tokyo, Seoul, Kuala Lumpur, Baku, Astana, Batumi and many more.

According to the embassy, this extensive network makes Uzbekistan Airways an increasingly popular choice for Pakistani travelers seeking both regional and long-haul connections, combining competitive pricing with superior comfort and efficiency.

The embassy said that Uzbekistan and Pakistan share centuries-old historical, cultural and spiritual ties rooted in the heritage of the Silk Road and Islamic civilization. The enhanced air links will further strengthen tourism, trade and people-to-people exchanges between the two brotherly nations.

For Pakistani tourists, Uzbekistan offers a gateway to the legendary Silk Road cities of Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva and Kokand. The embassy added that Uzbek visitors are increasingly drawn to Pakistan's diverse landscapes, historic landmarks and renowned hospitality.

Enhanced air links will make it easier for companies, students, and families to connect, while boosting mutual investment and tourism growth.

Senate body disposes of alleged privilege breach by QAU professor

By Kashif Abbasi

ISLAMABAD: On the request of Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU) Vice Chancellor Dr Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, a Senate panel on Monday disposed of the issue related to the alleged breach of privilege of senators by a senior professor of the university, who had described them "ill informed" about the university's affairs.

Senior Professor Dr Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, being the acting VC chaired a meeting of deans, heads of departments and other concerned, before the summer break in which it was decided to get the hostels vacated from students aimed at removing illegal occupants.

After a lot of resistance, police got the hostels vacated. Sources said when the hostel issue flared up there was a discussion in the WhatsApp group of the faculty members in which the acting VC in response to intervention of lawmakers termed them ill-informed [about the QAU issue].

This led several senators to move a privilege motion in July this year as according to them the word "ill-informed" breached their privilege. Dr Jaspal has been stating that ill-informed is not a derogatory word, rather it means someone had less information of a certain issue.

The agenda of the subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Rules and Procedure, which met on Monday, stated that besides others the meeting will "examine the derogatory remarks of acting VC of QAU wherein he termed the honourable senators 'ill Informed.'" The subcommittee headed by Senator Palwasha Mohammad Zai Khan reviewed the derogatory remarks.

During the meeting, the VC Dr Akhtar stated: "None of my professors can mock any public representative." He extended an unconditional apology on behalf of Prof Jaspal.

Dr Niaz requested the subcommittee to take lenient view regarding the instant case. The subcommittee disposed of the matter with instructions to maintain the sanctity of parliament and public representatives in future.

Earlier, the committee while discussing the issues of QAU heard the VC and representatives of the students' council and HEC.

The discussion entailed university administration and operating of councils with political and religious influence.

The convener of the committee said lawmakers would help addressing the administrative lacunas that were disrupting not only the university's discipline but also damaging the sanctity of parliament.

According to a press release issued by Senate, "the concerned Acting Vice Chancellor apologized in writing to the Standing Committee, a statement confirmed and read aloud by the Secretary Committee during the session."

Sources said Dr Jaspal did not attend the meeting; however, in previous meetings he had appeared and submitted his reply, stating: "The phrase 'ill-informed' the senators cited in the motion has regrettably been interrupted as derogatory. The phrase, as used in internal communication on an unofficial faculty Whatsapp account, referred explicitly to the lack of access to complete and updated information on the University's internal decision and academic procedures."

PAKISTAN NAVY

MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES
NOTICE OF TENDER

1. Applications are invited by the **GE (Navy) Karsaz Karachi** up to **06 Nov 2025** for pre-qualification of contractors/firms. Tenders for the following works under GE (N) Karsaz Karachi are required to be submitted by **1130 hours on 20 Nov 2025** will be opened on **20 Nov 2025 by 1200 hours:-**

Sl No.	Description of work	Amount in (M)
1.	Renewal/Replacement of Furniture for Dinning Hall, Class Room No.4 & 5 STC at PNS Bahadur	3.745
2.	Renewal/Replacement of Furniture for Class Room No.6 & Recreation Room at STC PNS Bahadur, E-89/2 NORE-IV, 8-3/3 Hanif SRE, 101/10 Majeed SRE	3.825
3.	Renewal / Replacement/Re-Cushioning / Re-polishing of furniture in various location at NORE-IV, Hanif SRE, PNCDDC, Majeed SRE, ARC Tower-D. C-4, MSO Office, PNS Jauhar, Khalid Farooq Barrack, STC at PNS Bahadur	4.293
4.	Miscellaneous repair/replacement works at Majeed SRE	4.350
5.	Miscellaneous repair/replacement works at Hanif SRE	4.125
6.	Miscellaneous repair/replacement works at NORE-IV	4.275
7.	Miscellaneous repair/replacement works at PNS Karsaz	4.325
8.	Miscellaneous repair/replacement works at PNS Bahadur	4.385
9.	Miscellaneous repair/replacement works at PNS Jauhar	4.462
10.	Repair/Replacement of Internal Water Supply with fitting fixture at GKA	3.354
11.	Repair/Replacement of External Water Supply with fitting fixture at GKA	3.250
12.	Repair/Replacement of Internal Electric Supply with fitting fixture at GKA	3.850
13.	Repair/Replacement of External Electric Supply with fitting fixture at GKA	3.724

2. Firms/Contractors who are enlisted with MES in unlimited Category OR other Govt. Department having experience of this type of work may only apply.
3. Application not enlisted with MES must providing the following information/documents otherwise will not be considered for prequalification/issue of tenders.

S/No	Description of similar nature of works executed during last two years and in hand	Sponsoring agency client	Amount of Work (Rs. in Million)	Completion period (Months)	Date of Physical Completion	Percentage Progress of work in hand	Performance report on each work by the Sponsoring agency/client

4. Contractor not enlisted with MES shall deposit Rs. 2% as earnest money in Govt Treasury or any scheduled bank of Pakistan in favour of GE (NAVY) KARSAZ and the Treasury receipt/ Bank receipt will be sent along with the application.
5. If tender of a contractor not enlisted with MES is accepted he shall be required to deposit Rs.300,000/- as security in the form as demanded by accepting officer.
6. The earnest money shall be refunded to the contractor if his tender is not accepted and after he has returned all the documents issued to him. In case of acceptance of tender, the earnest money deposited by the contractor shall be adjusted as part of security to be deposited by him.
7. The contractor enlisted with MES wil also furnish List of Moveable & immoveable assets, Personal (skilled/unskilled). Machinery/Equipments, Bank Statement, General Sales Tax (GST) Registration, NTN Certificate etc.
8. Contractors NOT BORNE on MES approved list of contractors or THOSE SUSPENDED from the approved list of MES contractors due to non-depositing enhanced amount of standing security will deposit earnest money equal to 5% of the estimated cost of bid in the form of FDR, Deposit at Call, etc, duly pledged in the name of GE (Navy) Karsaz Karachi. This amount is refundable, if the contractors are not pre-qualified or they do not secure the contract
9. The Accepting Officer reserves the night to reject any or al applications in the light of para 33 of PPRA Rules 2004. Incomplete application shall not be entertained

PID(K) 1538/25

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TENDER ENQUIRY NO. SNGPL/NP&D/HDD/TL/01/25-03

Reference to our advertisement in connection with the subject tender published in national dailies on **16-10-2025.** It is intimated that proposal submission date has been extended up to **18-11-2025 till 1100 hrs,** Technical proposal will be opened publicly as well as at EPADS on **18-11-2025 at 1130 hrs.,**

Other terms and condition of subject tender shall remain unchanged.

General Manager (NP&D)
SUI NORTHERN GAS PIPELINES LIMITED
3rd Floor, Gas House, 21-Kashmir Road, Lahore
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Email ID: saulat.lone@sngpl.com.pk
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Application along with attested copy of Testimonials, CNIC and a copy of this advertisement must reach to the Director ICCBS, University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, **within 15 days** from the date of publication of this advertisement.

DIRECTOR, ICCBS